



# "The River Cities Running Board"



**RIVER CITIES MODEL "A" FORD CLUB**

<http://www.rivercitiesrunningboard.com>

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**MAFCA AWARD WINNING NEWSLETTER, 2002-2009, 2011 and  
2013**

**OLD CARS WEEKLY GOLDEN QUILL AWARD 2004, 2010**



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# RIVER CITIES MODEL "A" FORD CLUB

This newsletter is the official publication of the River Cities Model A Ford Club, a chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America. It is mailed monthly to all members in good standing. Dues are \$25.00 per year per family. Membership in the **MODEL A FORD CLUB OF AMERICA** is a requirement for membership in the River Cities Model A Ford Club.

## CLUB OFFICERS:

President	Jim Langley
Vice President	Mark Gamble
Secretary & Benevolence	Pat Gamble
Treasurer	Joe Carter

## OTHER POSITIONS:

Editor	Bill Shirley
Tour Director	Paul Singer
Publicity Director	Sharon Webb
Program Director	John Robertson
Club Liaison	Joe Spooner
Membership Director	Al Lugo
Awards Director	Dick Noxon
Historian Director	Mickey Timbes
Scholarship Director	Bill Shirley
MATT Team Leader	Bobby Penny

**The River Cities Model "A" Ford Club permanent address is:  
P.O. Box 342, Columbus, GA 31902**

**All mail should be sent to the River Cities Model A Ford Club address above. Matters concerning the newsletter should be sent to the editor to insure timely publication.**

## FOUNDING MEMBERS:

*Jim Timbes	Bob Smith	Bobby Penny
Mickey Timbes	Al Lugo	*Robert Jackson
*Dan Palmer	Lawrence Farrar	*Bettie Jackson
Dan Diener	Bill Buck	(*Deceased)

## PAST PRESIDENTS:

Jim Timbes NOV 2000- DEC 2001	Bob Smith DEC 2001- 2003
Mickey Timbes DEC 2003-2004	Jim Langley DEC 2004 -2006
Joe Spooner DEC 2006-2008	Jim Langley DEC 2008- 2009
Jim Timbes DEC 2009-2010	Al Lugo DEC 2010-2012
Paul Singer Dec 2012-2014	Joe Spooner DEC 2014-2015
Jim Langley Dec2015-2016	

## **Presidents Rattles for June 2016**

**By Jim Langley**

**Did you realize that in 1928 and 1929, Ford did not offer Model A bodies in black? Do you know why? Well Henry would probably say, "It was Edsel's idea. Quite true, Ford did not offer black as a standard color, and could only be had by a special order from the factories, When the new Ford was first introduced in December 1927, there were four color options, black was not included...**

**What happen to black? to answer this question, lets look back a few years in Ford history. In the Model T's first years, it was offered in red, green, blue and black. These early "T" bodies were finished with varnish which was slow drying causing delays in producing assembled Model T's. As faster and faster production became reality, Henry made the decision to paint all bodies black enamel which dried faster and was durable. After 1914 and through 1925, all Fords were black only. Never proven as actually said by Henry Ford, "any color you like, as long as it's black." This diddy did sound good.**

**Because of Edsel Ford's urging as early as 1922 (ignored by Henry) that the Model T was out dated and a new car should be designed and built, color was used on Edsel's secret "prototypes" from 1923 – 1925. Because of declining Ford sales and increasing Chevrolet sales, Edsel finally got Henry to agree to make some slight styling changes and add color to the 1926 Model T Ford.**

**After the decision was made to produce a new Ford car and with Edsel in charge of designing and styling the new car**

(along with Henry's yes and no's) color was to be a big factor to change the Ford image from drab black (but functional) Model T to a stylish and colorful new Model A.

Another major factor in the choice of pigmented paint was that proxylin lacquer was well developed by the time the first line was drawn on a Model A blueprint. In 1926, Ford had offered closed cars in Deep Channel Green (Coupes and Tudors) Windsor Maroon (Fordors) and as other colors became available open cars were optioned in Pheonix Brown and Gunmetal Blue... My point, Edsel was trying to change the image of his cars being available only in black. This had become synonymous with driving an out of date car. When the Model T era ended in May 1927, more new Model T's were wearing colors other that black...

Now look ahead to the introduction of the Model A, "The New Ford Car." Were there black Model A's? Of course, and lots of them. But, Black was always a stand-by color that could be special ordered until 1930 when black made an official return as a standard color.

Using black is certainly more defensible than todays yellow Tudors and bright red coupes. I don't find those combinations in the charts., but boy, do you see them. You like black on your Model A? Paint it black and enjoy. It may not be right, BUT AIN'T IT PRETTY...

See you down The Back Roads...

*Jim*

# JOIN US!

BY AL Lugo

NEXT MEETING: June 16, 2016- 6:00PM  
(EASTERN) Our  
next meeting and Club will be at  
Woodmen of the World Lodge, on  
Highway 80, in Phenix City.

## COMING EVENTS

June 3	MATTS
June 10	Planning Meeting
June 16	Club Meeting
June 18	June Bug Tour
July 1	MATTS
July 15	Planning Meeting
July 21	Club Meeting
July 23	Fire Cracker Tour

### *CRUISE EVENINGS*

Every 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday-	Cooks Hot Dog on Miller & Airport Thruway
Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	Jim Bob's (By Hobby Lobby)
Every 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	Jason Deli (Close to Sears)
Every 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	Country's on Broadway
Every 5 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	Fudruckers in the Landings
Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	Opelika Home Depot
Every 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Steak and Shake (Bradley Park Drive)
Every Sunday AM	IHOP Airport Thruway

### NATIONAL:

June 19-24      MAFCA National Convention, Loveland, Colorado  
December 5-8   MAFCA National Awards Banquet, Reno, Nevada

**River Cities Model A Ford Club  
Meeting Minutes from April 21st, 2016  
Club Meeting**

The May meeting of the River Cities Model A Club was held Thursday, May 19, 2016 at the Woodman of the World facility.

President Jim Langley called the meeting to order with the following members present: Paul and Mary Nell Singer, Al Lugo, Jim Langley, Dick Noxon, Barbara and Howard Ruddick, Bill Shirley, Kristy Shirley, Isabel Shirley, John Robertson, Emily Robertson, Tommy Ellis, Joe Watkins, Joe and June Spooner, Bob Smith, Sharon Webb, Mark and Pat Gamble, Skipper Barfield, Joe Carter, Jim Miller, and Glenn Williams and Cindy.

Grace was given by AL Lugo. Members proceeded to the buffet line.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Sunshine Report: Howard Ruddick gave an update on Russell and Mary Ann Lester. Neal LaClair and Larry Farrar are recovering from serious illnesses. Our thoughts and prayers go to our members.

Special Presentation: Bill Shirley, chairman of the Dan Palmer Scholarship fund, presented the two scholarship awards for the year. Isabel Shirley graduating from Shaw High School will be attending Columbus State University. Emily Robertson attends the University of Mobile. We wish these recipients success in their future pursuits.

Minutes from the April 21, 2016, meeting were approved by Sharon Webb and seconded by Al Lugo as reported in the newsletter.

Correction: Howard and Barbara Ruddick's great nephew will be attending McPherson College in Kansas. It is the only school that provides a Bachelor's degree in automotive restoration technology. Also the school relies on support from people who donate antique cars.

Treasurer's report by Joe Carter was given and approved by John Robertson and seconded by Sharon Webb.

**Forthcoming Tours and Activities by Paul Singer**

Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> Tour to Old Alabama Club show at Opelika.  
Meet at Glenwood School at 9:00 a.m.

June 10<sup>th</sup> Monthly Planning at Burger King on Macon Rd. 9:00 a.m.

International Model A Day, September 10<sup>th</sup> coordinator is Bill Shirley

**Annual club Picnic, October 8<sup>th</sup> at the Ruddick's Retreat, coordinators are Howard & Barbara Ruddick and Paul Singer**

**Discussion on a possible fall tour of historic Russell County cemeteries and a cactus farm will take place later. Coordinators will be Paul Singer and Larry Farrar.**

**Program was very entertaining with a visit from the mobster, Al Capone, in full dress of the times. Howard Ruddick gave a biographical account of the most famous gangster including his cars and guns. Al Lugo showed a slide show to accompany his narration. Joe Watkins gave a personal story about a Capone relative when he was much younger in Florida.**

**With no further business the meeting was adjourned by President Jim Langley.**

**Respectively submitted by Pat Gamble, secretary.**

## **June Bug Tour**

**June 18, 2016**

### **Overview:**

**Visit the Coca Cola Science Center on June 18, 2016. We will gather at the Science Center parking lot at 10:30AM. General Admission fee is \$5.00 all day until 6:00PM. Group price for 15 plus individuals is \$3.50 Ea.**

**We will need to leave the Center for lunch, so save your ticket stub to re-enter the Science Center when we return.**

### **Recommended Activities:**

**Morning activities – explore the NASA Space Exhibit Gallery.**

**-Lunch-**

**Afternoon activities – Visit Omnisphere Planetarium Theater, relax and enjoy the scheduled feature shows.**

**You are free to leave anytime. Come on in and enjoy the show.**



## **MODEL A TINKER TIME SHOP**



Photos and information by Howard Ruddick

Another great MATTS was conducted at Bobby Penny's shop on April 1, 2016.



The May meeting had record attendance of 16! Look at the parking lot. Bobby will need to find more room to park



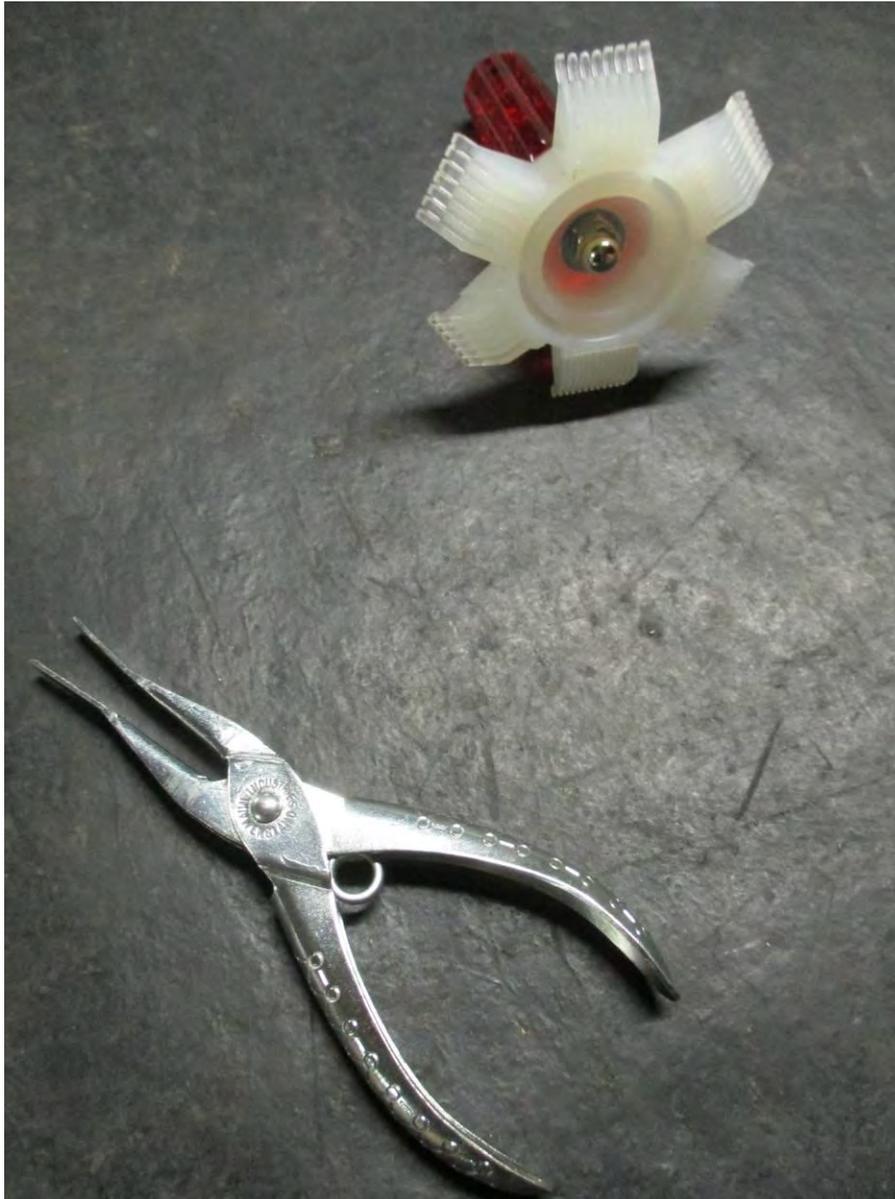
Mechanical or adjustment problems can be diagnosed and fixed with the club distributor measuring fixture.



**Have you ever had trouble setting split rivets when applying radiator shell lacing? With this tool it is a snap!**



**Bobby and Jim discuss the differences in radiator shells for Model A s.**



**Bent radiator fins can be quickly straightened with these tools I got from Harbor Freight.**

**Come join us for fellowship and learning at Bobby's on the first Friday of each month. Our attendance is growing and there is a cup of coffee and a donut with your name on it! Be sure to bring questions about the Model A with you**



**We have some empty chairs available at our monthly Planning Meeting. All Members are welcome to join us on the second Friday of each month at the Burger King at 2033 Wynnton Road in Columbus. The meeting starts at 9 AM EST. Come early and have breakfast. Learn planning that will be submitted to the Club for approval. Enjoy fellowship of our Model A enthusiasts. See you there, no reservation needed!**



## **Winners of the 2016 Dan Palmer Scholarship**

**Thank You Al Lugo for all of the fine articles and photo support you provide me as the News Letter Editor and also on be half of the club for capturing our clubs history.**

# DID YOU KNOW?

By AL LUGO

The Ford Motor Company has one of the richest histories of any Automobile Company. This was possible because of the preservation of documents, photos, and short films. It is my purpose in the coming months to bring you significant facts of Ford history presented in short "bullets". Please join me in honoring our rich Ford Motor Company History.

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## CLARA JANE BRYANT FORD- MRS. HENRY FORD

- In 2016 we celebrate the 150 years of Clara Bryant Ford birth. As we all know behind every great man there is a great woman. There is no question that without Clara's help and support the Ford Motor Company's history would be very different. Henry Ford once said:  
" The greatest day of my life was the day I married Mrs. Ford".
- Early on Henry called Clara "The Believer". He would affectionately call her Callie, but to others he would call her the believer because she always stood by him, encouraged him, and worked hard to see that his goals and aspirations were met. She never suggested that he give up in any of his goals. Henry called her "the believer" because Mrs. Ford was the only one who believed in his idea of a motor carriage.
- Most people don't know how Henry Ford picked the blue color in the Ford Emblem. The Blue Scilla was Clara's favorite flower. Henry knew Clara loved the color blue and he ordered that his company's logo be blue to match the color of the Blue Scilla. So when we see the Ford Blue emblem we most thank Clara for this contribution.
- She also knew him well to know when to step in and override a decision that did not make sense. She knew when to step in to save him from himself. At one time she talked him out of running for President of the United States.
- She also convinced him to settle with the UAW rather than close the doors of the Company and put over 100,000 people out of work. She told Mr. Ford that she would leave him after fifty years of marriage if he did not support Edsel and sign off on the union contracts.
- After Edsel died and Henry's health was failing, she and Edsel's wife convinced him to name his grandson Henry Ford II as President of Ford Motor Company.

- Even when she became one of the wealthiest women in the world, she remained simple, unassuming and in the background, Most of her charities were private and people did not realize that much of the Ford philanthropy originated with Mrs. Ford.
- One example of their generosity was in 1909 when the Detroit General Hospital association was planning a new hospital. In 1913 the project stalled and Henry and Clara stepped in and took over the project using their own money to make sure that their workers and the community had the best health care available. In 1915 the Henry Ford Hospital opened and has provided excellent health care for over 100 years.
- In Richmond Hill Georgia the Fords were able to help and cure an entire community of Malaria. Henry Ford's passion for collecting created one of the nation top museums, The Henry Ford.
- Some of the papers of the era quoted Clara Ford as saying " the secret of happiness is to led as natural and as kindly a life as one can". She gave the appearance of being formal and reserve but when you knew her you could understand how simple and kind she was.
- A few months before her death Clara gave a million dollar gift to the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan for the construction of a church at the family cemetery. The church would be name St. Martha's Parish after her mother Martha. The church today operates as the Central Campus of Triumph Church Detroit.
- Clara died on September 29, 1950, at the age of 84. When Clara died Ford factories and offices around the world paused work for three minutes during the time of the funeral. The Mayor of Dearborn ordered the city of Dearborn suspend all but essential services at the time of the funeral. Also the city of Detroit flew their flags at half-staff on the day of the funeral.
- They were married for 59 years and they were together during the hard times and during the great success. Clara supported Henry in all his efforts from lumber mills, to his tinkering with his gasoline engine at the kitchen sink. There is no question that Henry Ford could have not left his mark in this world without his wife, his believer, at his side.



- A nice photo of the young Mrs. Ford  
This photo was taken in 1915...



Henry and Clara in the Quadricycle...



**Clara Ford and baby Edsel...**



**The Ford's during the opening of the Edison Institute (The Henry Ford Museum)...**



**Henry and Clara at "The Mangoes" in Fort Myers Florida...**



Henry and Clara at the Grand Canyon...



Cemetery marker in Michigan, at the Ford cemetery...



**The Ford's, photo taken in 1930...**



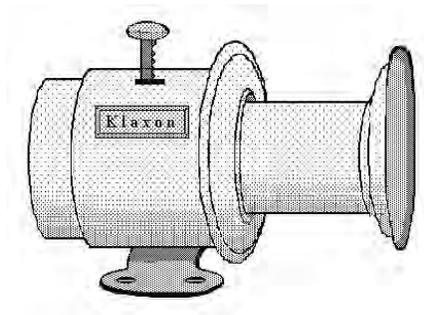
**Henry and Clara loved to dance...**

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARIES



**JUNE 16- William & Renate Shirley**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAYS



**JUNE 3- Russell Lester**  
**JUNE 15- June Spooner**  
**JUNE 25- Barbara Ruddick**  
**JUNE 27- Mike J. Durfy**

# **FASHIONS AND ALIGNMENT WORKSHOP...**

*By Al Lugo*

On May 14, 2016 the River Cities Model A Ford Club held our eleventh workshop. This time the topic was "Fashions during the Model A Era & Alignment"

Seventeen members met at Al Lugo's garage and Sharon Webb and Bobby Penny served as instructors, giving us two superb presentations.

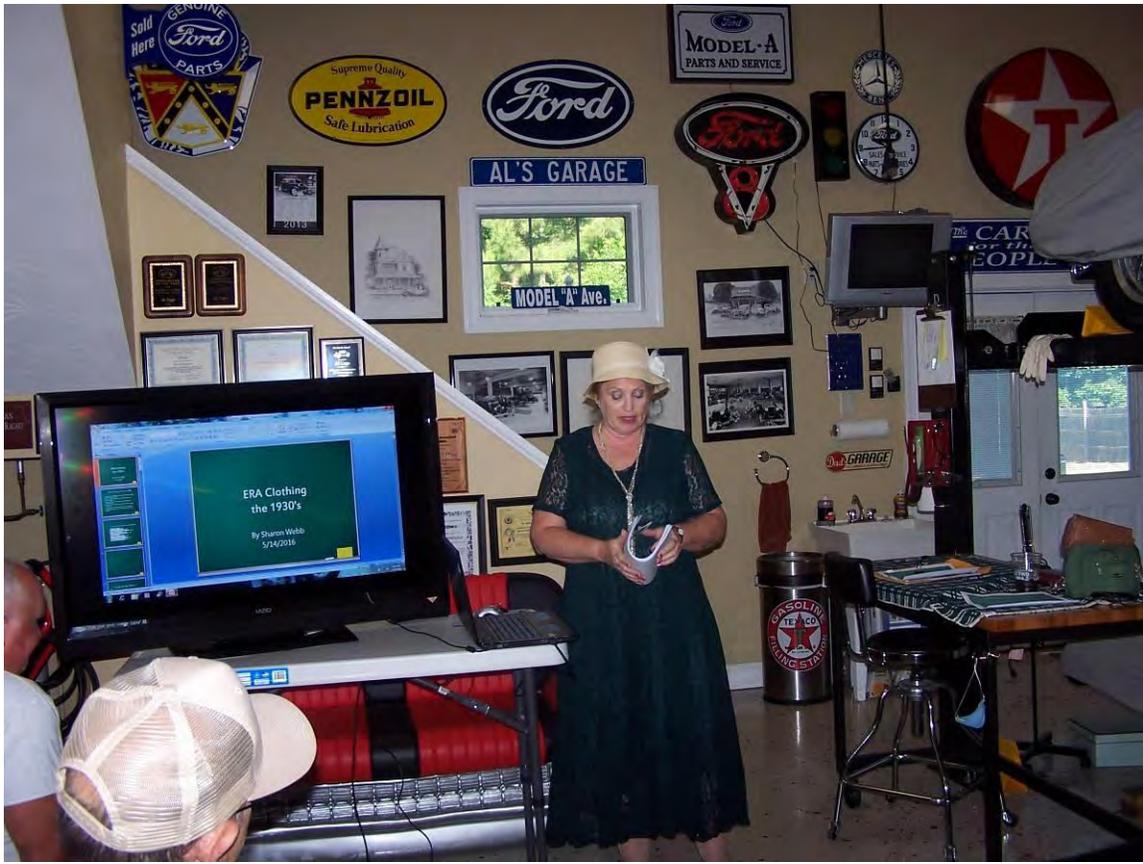
Members participating were Sharon Webb, Joe and June Spooner and grandson, Dick Noxon, Bob Smith, Howard and Barbara Ruddick, Neil LaClair, Bobby Penny, Pat Gamble, Paul and MaryNelle Singer, Jim Langley, Larry Farrar, and Al and Liz Lugo.

Members had a great time listening to the Fashion's presentation by Sharon Webb. She combined her presentation with a display of many Fashion items.

After a good lunch from "Countries" BBQ members met next to Bobby Penny's Model A chassis for a demonstration on how to properly do a wheel alignment on a Model A.

Join us in other workshops in the coming year...

All photos provided by Al Lugo.



# FOR SALE

The old girl has to go! I'll be listing this car in Hemmings and EBay in July for \$15,900.

If anyone in the Club is interested, I'll sell it for \$14,500 before the ads start. That's what I have in it inc new BF Goodrich WW. 3300 mi on rebuilt engine! Thanks

John Regan  
601 519 2449



**1931 Deluxe Roadster**

**John Lingo Engine**

**Heavy Duty Radiator**

**S10 Transmission, 12 volt system with Alternator, All new**

**wiring, Electornic Turn Signals LED Rear Lights, Cast Iron**

**Brake Drums, Flat Head TED Brake Floaters, Heater, New Side**

**Curtains Car Cover, Powderd Coated Wheels with new W/W**

**Tires (less than 300 miles) Painted in 1994**

**\$26,000.0/0**

**Contact Vic or Lori Tankersley**

**Londoln, KY.**

**H (606)330-0727**

**C (859)533-6285**

**Email: [lquincy@roadrunner.com](mailto:lquincy@roadrunner.com)**



**PARTS WANTED**

**WANTED: 30-31 Cowl with Gas tank**

**Contact: Ralph Marcum at 1-606-287-3855  
Member of the Central Kentucky Model A Club**